April 15, 1988 Issue 433

DXpedition News

Cocos-Keeling Island - VK9Y Scotty Martin W7SW will operate from this increasingly popular rental QTH (OC-03) April 12-May 3, as VK9YT. All bands 160-10, CW and SSB. With him will be VK6NKG, who will operate as VK9NKG. QSL home calls.

Christmas Island - VK9X Following his Cocos operation, Scotty will spend three weeks on Christmas (OC-02) as VK9XT, May 3-24. Same QSL route.

Eastern Carolines - KC6 Three Japanese DXers will venture to Ponape Is. (OC-10) May 27-June 5, including the WPX CW test. Call will be either KC6DX or JA7AB/KC6. They'll be on 160-10 CW and SSB outside the test: 1835 3505 7005 10100 14025 21025 and 28025 kHz on CW, and 3795 7085 14195 21295 and 28500 SSB. QSL via JA7AGO.

Edited by Chod Harris VP2ML

The DX Bulletin

America's Premier Weekly Amateur Radio Publication

Revillagigedo - XF4 Skip N6OND continues his operation as XE2HUM/XF4, from Clarion Island (NA-30), which is about 200 miles from Socorro, the main island in the group. His research project is slated to last about 6 months. Although his initial operation was from aboard the 45' trimaran, he now says he's operating from the island itself, working off batteries with his Kenwood TS-440. Skip likes CW, especially 14026 kHz around 0000Z. He's also been on 21305 kHz at 2130Z. QSL via W6RQ, but note that Al is not a QSL manager but rather a mail drop; Skip will bring logs back with him at the conclusion of his travels. Will it count for DXCC? Too early to tell.

Pacific Trip Amir 4X6TT wrapped up his 4-month Pacific tour in American Samoa KH8 last week. He's scheduled to be in Visalia and Dayton before returning home.

RTTY Report

- PJ2CJ is on 14092 kHz at 0130Z.
- FM5WS has been on 14094 kHz at 2020Z. QSL to W4FRU.
- 9J5KF was on 14086 kHz at 0600Z. QSL Box 350103, Chilanga, Zambia.
- BY1SK is on 14086 kHz at 0940Z. QSL Box 2916, Beijing, China.
- 9Y4DG is on 14085 kHz at 2250Z.
- 5H3ZO was on 21100 kHz AMTOR at 2130Z.
- J88BN Greg has been on 14090 kHz at 2045Z
- CN8BX is very active around 14090 kHz at 2020Z.
- VP8BQE on the Falklands likes 14081 kHz at 2045Z.
- 9Q5DA has been on 14086 kHz at 2330Z.
- HP1FR is on 21089 kHz at 1900Z. QSL to Box 8266, Panama City.

The Russians are Coming

In over the pole, when the polar absorption is not too high. This is the time of year when the Russian signals pour into the US; see Bandpass for samples. Early evening local time is best; tune way up in the CW band. Many rare oblasts are active. For a list of USSR oblasts, see the 1988 Callbook, the new ARRL Operating Manual, or send an SASE to The DX Bulletin. And don't forget the CQ-M contest in May.

Shortly Noted

- Rudi DJ9GR is now active as TU4GR, mostly CW 5 or 25 kHz up from the band edge. He'll be there until mid-August, when he'll return to handle his own QSLs. Thanks DXNS.
- KC4AAA is often high in the 20 meter SSB band in the evenings, local time.
- HG8Q listens for US stations on 1832 kHz at 0500Z Sundays.
- GB5RN celebrated the 50th anniversary of the launching of HMS Belfast, as part of the Royal Navy activities.
- UA0HAE from Oblast 106 is one of only three stations in the oblast, which is larger than WA, OR and ID combined. Watch 14010 kHz at 00Z.
- BT0LS on Mt. Everest and BT0ZMS in Lhasa are often on Wednesday and Sunday at 00 or 1200Z, on 14180 or 14280 kHz.
- Twenty meter SSB net regulars include: ZL7AA XU1SS S0RASD JX8KY 3D2ER ZK2JP BY1QH T5GG TL8HW 6W8OG 9X5AA FH8CB 9K2KW TZ6KW.

The DX Bulletin News

This issue of The DX Bulletin includes a Reference Special with propagation and QSL information. We hope to make this a monthly feature of TDXB, with award and contest data, and other "timeless" DX information.

PROPAGATION

Forecast and Historical Data

Day	Forecast	27 Days Before				55 Days Before			
April		Date	Flux	A	K	Date	Flux	A	K
15	High Nor	3/19	118	04/11	1	2/20	109	03/08	1
16	High Nor	3/20	115	04/11	0	2/21	107	17/49	3
17	High Nor	3/21	119	01/09	0	2/22	107	70/123	5
18	High Nor	3/22	118	03/11	1	2/23	103	27/48	2
19	High Nor	3/23	122	07/11	3	2/24	102	12/17	2
20	High Nor	3/24	122	06/10	1	2/25	98	12/16	2
21	High/Low	3/25	129	09/17	3	2/26	99	10/15	3
22	Disturbed	3/26	130	15/65	4	2/27	98	07/11	1
23	Disturbed	3/27	131	20/48	3	2/28	99	07/09	2
24	Disturbed	3/28	130	14/46	3	2/29	105	02/07	1
25	Disturbed	3/29	132	22/56	4	3/1	103	04/09	2

Thanks KH6BZF and Space Environment Services Center.

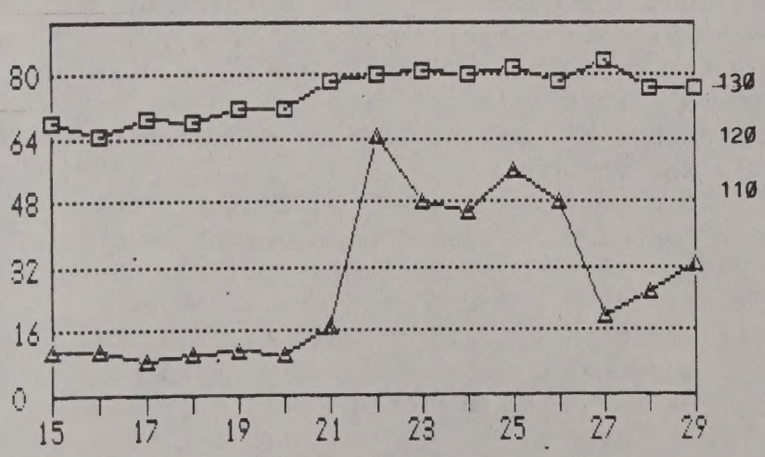
Propagation Watch

DXers are paying for the great propagation of February and March with terrible bands in early April. Beginning with the solar storm that produced disturbed conditions for the WPX SSB test March 26-27, the geomagnetic field has been unsettled to active every day.

The planetary A index didn't drop below 20 for two straight weeks. The A index hit 103 on April 4, dropped to "only" 41 on the 5th, and then zoomed up to 70 the next day, as yet another solar storm rolled in. The K Index stayed at 3 or above the entire two-week period, and hit 7 or 8 on seven different occasions.

All this geomagnetic disturbance has masked the effects of high solar flux, now solidly into the "moderate" phase of solar activity. While the flux is increasing very rapidly (see accompanying Reference Special,) the bands have been horrible. The polar path and long-haul propagation often disappear, low bands are noisy and signal strengths are down, and Startwarm and increased absorption have taken much of the starch out of 10 and 15 meters. 20 meters continues to provide some good DXing, between solar storms.

[NOTE: With this issue, your editor takes over the propagation forecasts from Ted Cohen N4XX, who is retiring for the prediction business. My forecasts will be based on the procedure in the Shortwave Propagation Handbook, by Ted and George Jacobs W3ASK, with a little fudging. Reader's comments are encouraged. This is a particularly bad time to start propagation forecasts, as rapidly increasing solar activity makes even 27-day forecasts chancy at best. Wish me luck. -ed.]



Solar flux (squares, scale at right), Planetary A index (triangles, scale at left) for 27 days prior to dates given. Thanks Space Environment Services Center.

International DX Convention

April 22-24 marks the International DX Convention in Visalia, California, at the Grosvenor Inn. SØRASD, NO1Z/KH1, the Colvins, and much more is on the program. And again this year, The DX Bulletin is helping sponsor the Friday evening cocktail party, to thank those hundreds of DXers who have aided The DX Bulletin in the past year. Stop by and say hello!

More information on the convention is available from Don Bostrom N6IC, 4447 Atol Ave., Sherman Oaks CA 91423.

Dayton Hamvention

One week after Visalia is the mammoth Dayton Hamvention. As of last month, every hotel and motel room in the county was taken! Major DX activities include the DX Dinner on Friday night, Hospitality rooms at the Stouffers, and the DX Forum at the Arena. The DX Bulletin will have a booth just outside Room 1, where the DX Forum is held. Stop by Booth 472; I'm looking forward to meeting you.

DX Packet News

Just since last week (see Special Report, April/1,) DX packet networks have been growing. In Michigan, the K8NLD-1 DX packet has moved to 144.97 MHz, and installed the Pavillion Software operating system.

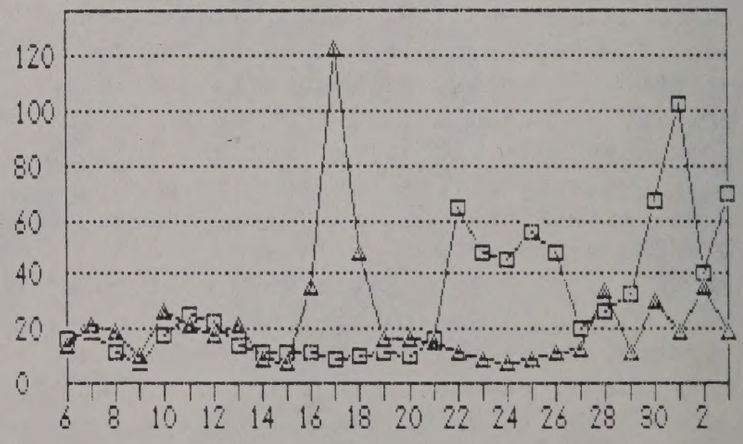
And in Northern California, a Packet Spotting Network has formed. This is an overlay organization representing membership in the DX and contest clubs of the region: the Northern California DX Club, the Northern California Contest Club, the River City Contest Club, and the Redwood Empire DX Association. The group is creating a 220 MHz "backbone" to link individual Packet Cluster nodes together. Nodes up now, or going up in the next few weeks, include: N6VV, W6OAT, NV6Z, WG6H, WZ6Z, and W6GO.

The group plans to extend the reach of the network into Southern California, by the use of a 9600 baud telephone link. Ultimate goal is to link the entire West Coast in the network. A similar system in the Atlanta area has had as many as 80 users connected to the network at the same time! For more information on this Packet Spotting Network, contact Lew N6VV.

Report from Nigeria

Larry Eicher 5N0WRE says he will wrap up his Nigerian operation on May 1, 1988. 75 meters is very noisy, now that central Africa has entered the rainy season. He'll concentrate on 15 meters, especially 17-1800Z and 21-2200Z, on 21260-285 kHz. Also check 28475 kHz at 15-1600Z.

Please note that Larry's QSL manager, Cecil Kelley K4JZQ, is quite ill, and cannot process the cards immediately. Since Larry is returning stateside soon, he'll handle the backlog of QSL requests in early summer; please be patient.



Planetary A Index for 27 days (squares) and 55 days (triangles) prior to April date at bottom.

BANDPASS

Reports Wanted, Especially RTTY, 30 meters

-----RTTY-----

3C1MB	21099	1745	3	MO
9J2KF	14091	0300	2	OH
9Y4RJS	14079	0045	26	ND
AL7BB	14084	2130	2	OH
BY9GA	14090	0050	30	OH
C31NP	14091	0036	3	NH
CP8HD	14096	0050	30	OH
EA6BH	14093	2212	31	MO
EA8OD	14098	0233	1	WI
FO5LQ	14092	0140	3	CA
HP1AC	14096	2217	31	MO
HR2JAE	14083	0120	30	OH
J39RS	28092	1940	3	MO
J6LGH	14095	2107	3	MO
J88BN	14090	2200	4	OH
LU8DHT	14088	2215	4	OH
PZ1BS	14083	0110	30	OH
SV9AKD	21091	1181	3	OH
TG9VT	14087	2250	4	OH
TR8RLA	14093	2335	8	CA
VK7AE	14081	1544	2	WI
VU2NR	14091	0100	26	ND
Y76ZL	21094	1610	3	OH
YB3ON	14089	1755	23	ND
YE1JE	21092	2035	3	OH
ZP5CDV	14092	0135	3	CA
ZS6CDJ	14095	2214	28	NH

-----160 Meters-----

9M3AX	1812	1348	26	WA
CP8HD	1835	1025	3	WA
CT1AOZ	1829	0415	26	MI
FO5FO	1832	0551	3	WA
KH1/NO1Z	1836	0643	4	WA
KH6CC	1832	0610	30	BC
KX6DC	1832	1329	1	MT
OHØBH	1827	0330	4	WA
T25TT	1823	1102	23	MD
VK2RS	1833	1250	3	MT
VK9LD	1807	1126	24	MD
ZL3GQ	1833	0625	2	WA

-----80 Meters-----

9M2AX	3509	1409	28	MA
EA8ABR	3503	2305	3	NH
FT5ZB	3507	1305	3	MT
T22VU	3501	1054	4	MO
UAØZC	3502	1012	4	FL
UO5ON	3504	2340	30	NH
YJ8NJS	3505	1320	5	CA

-----75 Meters-----

5B4OA	3797	0240	2	MA
5B4TI	3799	0116	29	MD
5W1TT	3792	1059	3	MD
FT5ZB	3799	0119	2	MD
OD5VT	3794	2310	2	MA
T77V	3799	0351	2	MA
VK9LD	3797	1126	23	MD
YN3EO	3790	0320	5	CO
ZL4BO	3793	1050	5	OH

-----40 Meters-----

3B8CF	7007	0245	4	MO
4S7WP	7003	2355	3	MD
4X4OA	7006	0107	5	MO
5W1TT	7088	1244	2	CO
8R1J	7004	1012	3	MO
9L1GG	7023	0544	1	OR
BY1QH	7003	1125	4	NJ
EA8QP	7034	0235	31	FL
HI5ØØRCD	7010	0231	9	FL
KH2F	7003	1059	24	OH
KX6DS	7005	0645	6	OR
T22VU	7020	0742	2	OR
TA4A	7006	0010	31	AL
TR8CR	7006	0445	3	CA
UAØFM	7005	1027	3	VA
VP8PTG	7006	0001	7	FL
YN3EO	7002	2341	3	FL

-----30 Meters-----

5W1TT	10108	1216	3	MA
9M2FP	10101	1630	1	CA
FT5ZB	10101	1630	1	CA
HB9ALV	10104	0607	1	CA
JH2CLV	10101	1505	1	CA
VK2OO	10108	0552	1	CA

-----20 Meter CW-----

3B8CF	14030	0415	26	MA
3B8DA	14023	0240	1	CO
3B8FQ	14008	1312	1	AL
4KØE	14011	1215	3	MA
4S7EA	14009	1657	2	OR
4S7EA	14009	0026	3	MN
4S7WN	14025	0017	3	MD
4U/OH6XY	14017	0022	1	GA
4Z4ØI	14011	2250	2	MA
4Z4ØI	14032	1843	3	PA
5NØSKO	14019	2326	2	MN
5U7/ TU4BR	14019	0351	30	MD
6W9DY	14026	0300	31	CA
7X2AB	14010	1910	25	CT
9L1GG	14026	2200	4	FL
9V1OK	14018	2250	1	MI
9V1VD	14003	1232	3	MD

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Tell your fellow DXers about The DX Bulletin!

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BTØLS	14022	1240	3	MD
BV2DA	14006	1542	31	OR
BY1QH	14025	1210	1	MI
BY1QH	14030	0015	2	PA
BY4RB	14028	2350	22	MA
BY9GA	14023	0045	1	MA
C53GP	14005	2318	2	MN
CEØZIP	14010	0145	1	MA
CI8COP	14025	0015	7	FL
FT5ZB	14025	0246	31	MO
FT5ZB *	14025	1331	3	FL
HK6IJ	14026	1759	23	ND
IH9/ IT9BLB	14011	0035	3	MD
JT/OK1XC	14002	1245	1	AL
KX6DC	14005	1248	21	AL
OX3LX	14027	1247	31	GA
OY9JD	14008	0010	27	MI
RH8AJ	14042	0334	1	OR
RZ1OWA	14045	0253	25	MA
SU1AH	14036	2145	31	PA
TA3D	14009	1930	3	PA
TA4A	14040	2300	4	FL
TU4GR	14026	0055	1	WI
U9CA	14013	0119	1	WI
UAØC/ * UZ9OWM	14028	0445	30	CA
UAØHAE	14010	0420	1	CO
UA1O/ UAØBDU	14019	2110	3	MA
UA1OT	14016	0350	31	CA
UA9XCR	14023	0503	8	CA
UA9YAB	14030	0010	2	PA
UC2AIT	14047	1251	31	GA
UD6DJ	14005	1816	3	PA
UH8BAF	14023	0259	1	MD
UH8ED *	14013	1219	5	AL
UI8AHU	14024	0238	1	MD
UL7YAO	14012	1534	2	CA
UM/RA4HT	14024	0237	9	FL
UN1CD	14008	0436	22	CA
V85AA	14004	1542	31	OR
VU2TJW	14026	0200	2	CA
YN3CC	14021	0630	26	MD
ZC4AP	14011	1752	2	MN

-----20 Meter SSB-----

3B8CF	14235	0338	2	MA
3B9FR	14215	1245	30	MD
3D2ER	14195	0342	31	MO
3DAØAN	14209	2200	3	MD
4S7RO	14165	1816	2	NC
5N1MRE	14212	1195	28	NH
5TØRIM	14186	0123	4	NJ
5W1TT	14195	1233	1	MA
5W1TT	14195	0320	2	MA
6W7OG	14221	2300	4	OH
7X5PV	14241	2144	1	NC
9J2DS	14203	0356	25	AL
9N1MM	14185	1505	2	WI
9N1MM	14178	0124	25	AL
A4XKJ	14197	1420	2	CA
A4XKJ *	14197	1336	2	MN
A61AB	14240	1715	30	MA
AP2MQ	14175	0140	2	NC
BTØLS	14190	1310	1	CO
BTØLS	14182	0103	3	MD
BTØZML	14190	1320	1	MD
BY1QH	14181	1135	3	MA
CEØICD	14236	0133	4	OR
CEØNKY	14191	0026	2	NH
CEØZIP	14195	0309	3	MD
CN8CC	14198	0205	2	CA
CN8FB	14228	2248	2	OR
EL2MS	14223	0240	4	OH
FH8CB	14160	2147	2	MD
FR5DX	14184	0310	1	OR
FT5YB	14230	0641	28	BC
JTØBG	14186	0131	3	MD
JTØTJ	14169	1414	2	MD
JT1KAA	14234	0210	1	WI
JX8KY	14254	1458	1	CA
JY5EA	14202	0145	1	CO
JY5HH	14201	1401	2	MD
OD5VT	14160	0115	2	CO
OHØBH	14210	1800	2	CO
OX3GB	14218	0208	31	MO
P29FG	14201	1403	25	MA
P43DO	14204	0251	2	MA
SØRASD	14164	2135	3	OR
S92LB	14183	2105	5	CO
SU1ER	14182	2253	24	MD
T5ØRIM	14188	0004	4	MD
T5GG	14203	2212	2	MD
TA1T	14199	0054	24	FL
UG7GWO	14244	1343	28	MD
V47KLC	14283	1052	2	MD
VU2TJW	14183	0152	25	AL
VU2TJW	14200	2323	31	NC
YI1BGD	14183	1800	7	OR
ZD8HCF	14243	0122	3	MD

-----15 Meter CW-----

3B9FR	21005	1725	2	MA
5K7U	21012	2217	30	GA
7X2AX	21012	1749	3	MA
9J2KF	21008	1720	2	MA
9Q5DA	21022	2110	5	CO
GB5RN	21026	2204	9	FL
KG4JO	21030	2030	1	NH
KH2F	21007	1220	27	OH
T22VU	21004	0155	29	ID
T22VU	21017	2130	3	FL
TF5GCN	21026	2200	9	FL
TU4CO	21009	2104	1	MD
UI8QAU	21007	1346	23	AL
UI9AWX	21017	1325	25	PA
UJ8AQ	21033	1215	25	MA
YC3HCM	21008	1328	3	PA
ZC4NC	21006	1732	3	MA

-----15 Meter SSB-----

5TØRIM	21312	2137	1	CT
5U7/ TU4BR	21326	1320	26	MA
5Z4ET	21338	1928	1	NH
5Z4JB	21285	2050	1	OR
EA8AMT	21203	1735	3	OH
GB75DXN	21269	1801	1	MD
HH7GE	21322	1400	3	MD
KC4AAC	21426	2126	26	NH
KX6HN	21338	2056	3	MD
RG6GBW	21230	1257	26	FL
SØRASD	21265	1842	27	MD
TA1E	21335	1655	3	MD
TA2/ N4EXR	21359	1436	3	MD
TZ6VV	21275	1703	3	MD

-----10 Meter CW-----

3B8CF	28030	1502	3	FL
9J2BO	28060	1505	3	MD
9L1GG	28031	1700	3	FL
CEØFFD	28009	1545	30	FL
EA9EO	28027	1409	3	FL
FT5ZB	28027	1202	2	FL
HZ1AB	28023	1405	3	FL
PO2PPU	28006	2055	2	NM
T2VU	28003	2334	3	FL
TJ1DL	28065	1730	3	FL
TR8CR	28009	1710	1	FL
VP2MET	28024	2239	31	GA
VP8BNO	28013	2110	26	MA
ZD8MG	28019	1450	2	FL

-----10 Meter SSB-----

5B4TI	28503	1405	3	MD
5H1HK	28578	1856	31	CO
5TØRIM	28470	1720	3	MA
6W7OG	28554	1808	3	FL
A35SA	28516	2135	1	CO
FH8CB	28543	1727	3	FL
OH3SR	28505	2033	3	CO
TU2JT	28474	1400	3	MD
TU2QQ	28541	1655	5	CO
TZ6MG	28490	2137	31	CT
VP2ML	28455	2110	26	CT
YCØSQT	28522	1830	3	FL
YJ8JG	28505	0050	2	CA
Z21BA	28625	1853	31	CO
ZD8RP	28450	1651	2	MD

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March-April Calendar:

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sa
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

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Key to Bandpass: Callsign, frequency, UTC, day of month state. * = long path, P = Packet. All 'portable' calls are listed with country of operation first, regardless of format used on the air.

The DX Bulletin

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Fulton, CA 95439
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CALENDAR

Issue 433 - April 15, 1988

(Changes and hot info in boldface.)

Andorra - C3	by KK4AJ soon	I429
Amsterdam - FT8Z	FT5ZB 1832 14-1500Z	I426
	7006 0100Z	I428
Antarctica - 4K	4K1J 2330-0230Z	I428
	KC4AAA 20 SSB 02-04Z	I433
Aruba - P4	P40P June 15-22	I431
Bahamas - C6	DK6NN/C6A to Apr 20	I431
Central Africa TL	TL8TG mid-April	I432
China - BY	20 M CW/SSB 0030-01Z	I423
	BY by NS7Z to Apr 25	I432
Christmas Is.	VK9XT May 3-24	I433
Cocos-Keeling	VK9YT to May 3	I433
Congo - TN	by N4NW late April	I432
Curaco - PJ2	PJ2/N5RM May 24-31	I427
E. Carolines	KC6DX May 27-June 5	I433
Faroes - OY	OY/DK9FE May 8-27 CW	I424
Galapagos - HC8	HG8Q 1832 0500 Sun	I433
Guinea - 3X	3X0A Mar 25-Apr 7	I429
Guinea-Bissau J5	J52US 1827 2345Z	I426
	21225 1330Z	I428
India - VU	AT0T WPX CW	I429
	VU2ZAP 21002 1600Z	I431
Ivory Coast - TU	TU4GR to mid-August	I433
Kingman - KH5K	K9AJ/KH5K Apr 23-30	I431
Maldives - 8Q7	by DA2ER to May 11	I432
Nepal - 9N	9N1MM 14236 00Z Wed	I428
Pakistan - AP	AP2MQ 14185 0200Z	I428
Palmyra - KH5	W0LRX/KH5 May 1-7	I431
Pitcairn - VR6	VR6ID 21305 1700Z	I425
Nicobar - VU4	by VU2RBI soon ?	I428
Nigeria - 5N	5N0WRE 15 SSB 1700Z	I420
Revillagigedo	XE2HUM/XF4 now	I433
Rodriguez - 3B9	3B9FR 14008 at 1400Z	I431
Saba Is. - PJ	PJ0M 6M Jul 7-14	I430
St. Kitts - V4	V47KLC Apr. 1-15	I430
South Cooks ZK1	by G3MCN to Apr. 20	I428
Spratly - 1S	by DUs in April ?	I428
Sri Lanka - 4S7	by VK3DXI to mid-Apr.	I430
Tuvalu - T2	CQWW SSB by K8JRK	I432
U.A.E. - A6	A61AB 1500Z 14240Z	I430
West Sahara - S0	S0RASD 14183 1800Z	I424
Zaire - 9Q	9Q5NW 21250 1930Z+	I420
	1827.5 kHz at 0430Z	I420
	9Q5DA 7005 0530Z	I421
	14003 2130Z 15M CW 2100Z	
Zone 23 - BT0	Feb. 25-June 30	I424
	14180/280 00, 12Z	I433

DX Activities and Contests

Date	Event or Activity	Info
April 22-24	Visalia DX Conv.	TDXB
April 29-May 1	Dayton Hamvention	
May 14-15	Russian CQ-M Test	CQ
May 28-29	CQ WW WPX CW Test	CQ

Reserve Your Island Now!

Contributors

This Issue of The DX Bulletin would not have been possible without the invaluable assistance of the following: KH6BZF, AB8K, K0CVD, K2UFM, K3ZO, K4BAI, K4MF, K4XI, K6FD, K6IR, K8NN, KA0CDN, KA1XN, KA4YAE, KA7T, KB4UMO, KD7SO, KE7X, KI8W, KK4LM, KQ3S, KW0A, N1CIX, N1EJF, N1QY, N4NO, N4XR, N8EKS, N9AW, NW6P, VE7HDX, W0IJR, W0LHG, W0LHS, W0RJU, W0RTU, W1BFT, W1CYB, W1FV, W1HH, W1HZ, W1JR, W1NH, W3FM, W3KYN, W4PSI, W4VQ, W5SUV, W6JOX, W6UQF, W6ZH, W7AWA, W8UVZ, W9KJP, WB1AUW, WB2CHO, WB3AVN, WB3JRU, WJ7R, WK6E, WW6D, W6RQ, KA1ERN, W4TMN, WF5E, KA7T, WD6HDF, N8EKS, KA1BSZ, W7SW, 5N0WRE, N6VV, K1XM, KA9RAP, KT7H, JA7HMZ, and Japan DX News.